

**wherein:**

AP6 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-2-(2'-pyridine)-pyridinium bromide.

AP2 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-quinolinium bromide.

AP7 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-pyrazinium bromide.

YA1 is 2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl-dimethylphosphonate.

YA2 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-triethylammonium bromide.

AP18 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-4-tert.-butylpyridinium bromide.

AP24 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-3-n-butylpyridinium bromide.

34P is pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylic acid.

AP9 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-4-N,N-dimethylamino-pyridinium bromide.

AP12 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-pyrazinium bromide.

AP19 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-3-fluoropyridinium bromide.

AP20 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-4-ethylpyridinium bromide.

AP23 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-2,6-dihydroxymethylpyridinium bromide.

AP28 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-3,5-diiodo-4-pyridinone.

AP5 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-3,5-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; and this compound  
has also been coded PICVA-13.

AP21 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxethyl)-3,4-dicarboxamide-pyridinium bromide.

AP22 is N-(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)-3-bromo-5-carboxypyridinium bromide.--

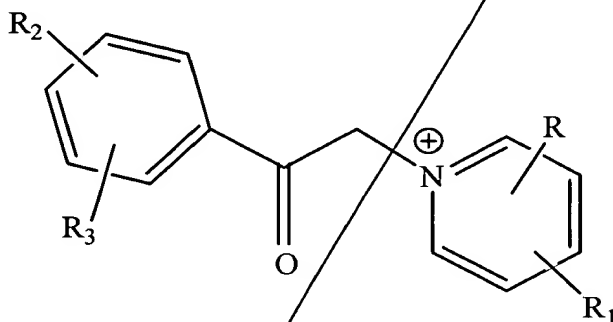
**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel Claim 2.

Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

5  
3  
1. (Twice Amended) An ischemia-damage mitigating salt of a compound having a formula I:



I

wherein R and R<sub>1</sub> are independently hydrogen, sulfamide, carboxyamide, cyano, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, straight or branched C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a straight chain C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or a straight chain C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl having an ether link or an ester link, toluenyl, COOH, nitrate, or halide (Br, Cl, I, F), wherein at least one of R and R<sub>1</sub> is COOH, wherein R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are independently hydrogen, sulfamide, carboxyamide, cyano, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, straight or branched C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a straight chain C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or a straight chain C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl having an ether link or an ester link, toluenyl, COOH, nitrate or halide (Br, Cl, I, F), wherein R and R<sub>1</sub> are meta to each other and to the heteroatom.

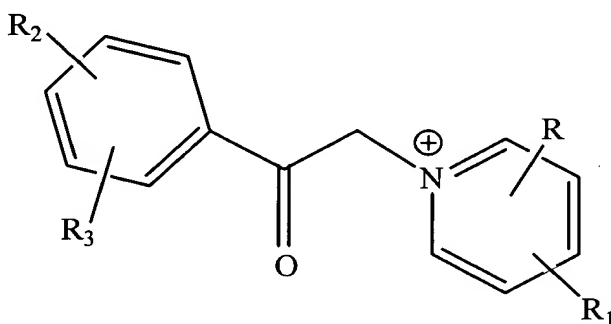
c4 2. 5. (Amended) The ischemia-damage mitigating salt of claim 1 wherein R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are both hydrogen.

3 6. (Amended) The ischemia-damage mitigating salt of claim 1 wherein R and R<sub>1</sub> are each COOH, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are both hydrogen.

7. (Amended) The ischemia-damage mitigating salt of claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of 1-phenacyl-2,3-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,4-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,5-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-3,5-dicarboxypyridinium bromide (AP5); 1-phenacyl-2,6-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,3-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,4-dicarboxyimidepyridinium

bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,5-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide; and 1-phenacyl-2,6-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide.

8. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a salt of a compound from formula I in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein formula I comprises:



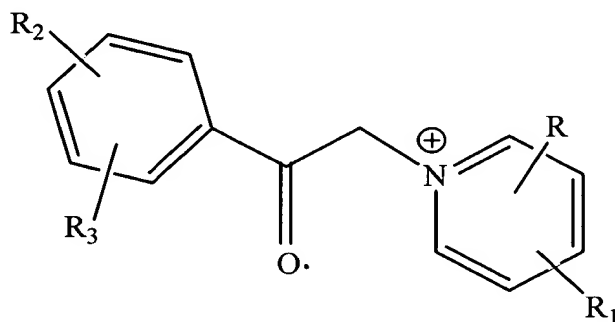
wherein R and R<sub>1</sub> are independently hydrogen, sulfamide, carboxyamide, cyano, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, straight or branched C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a straight chain C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or a straight chain C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl having an ether link or an ester link, toluenyl, COOH, nitrate, or halide (Br, Cl, I, F), wherein at least one of R and R<sub>1</sub> is COOH, wherein R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are independently hydrogen, sulfamide, carboxyamide, cyano, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, straight or branched C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a straight chain C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or a straight chain C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl having an ether link or an ester link, toluenyl, COOH, nitrate, or halide (Br, Cl, I, F).

C5  
Cantel  
1,0440

14. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 8 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of 1-phenacyl-2,3-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,4-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,5-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-3,5-dicarboxypyridinium bromide (AP5); 1-phenacyl-2,6-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,3-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,4-dicarboxyimidepyridinium

bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,5-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide; and 1-phenacyl-2,6-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide.

12 15. (Amended) A method for inhibiting tissue damage caused by ischemia, comprising administering an effective amount of a salt of a compound of formula I, wherein formula I comprises:



I

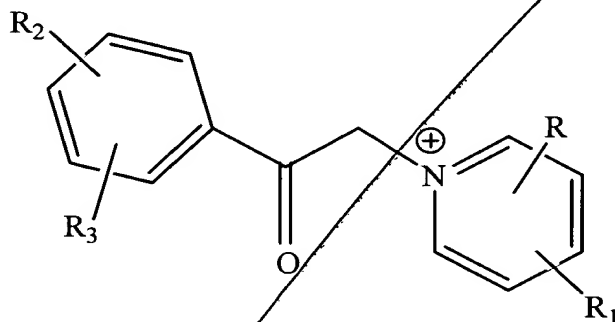
wherein R and R<sub>1</sub> are independently hydrogen, sulfamide, carboxyamide, cyano, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, straight or branched C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, straight, or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a straight chain C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or a straight chain C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl having an ether link or an ester link, toluenyl, COOH, nitrate, or halide (Br, Cl, I, F), wherein at least one of R and R<sub>1</sub> is COOH, wherein R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are independently hydrogen, sulfamide, carboxyamide, cyano, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, straight or branched C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a straight chain C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or a straight chain C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl having an ether link or an ester link, toluenyl, COOH, nitrate, or halide (Br, Cl, I, F).

12 21. (Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of 1-phenacyl-2,3-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,4-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,5-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-3,5-dicarboxypyridinium bromide (AP5); 1-phenacyl-2,6-dicarboxypyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,3-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide; 1-phenacyl-2,4-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide; 1-

CG  
C-1  
phenacyl-2,5-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide; and 1-phenacyl-2,6-dicarboxyimidepyridinium bromide.

Please add the following additional claims 28-32:

CG  
C-1  
--28. (New) An ischemia-damage mitigating compound or salt thereof, said compound having a formula I:



wherein R and R<sub>1</sub> are independently hydrogen, sulfamide, carboxyamide, cyano, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, straight or branched C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a straight chain C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or a straight chain C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl having an ether link or an ester link, toluenyl, COOH, nitrate, or halide (Br, Cl, I, F), wherein both R and R<sub>1</sub> cannot be hydrogen, wherein R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are independently hydrogen, sulfamide, carboxyamide, cyano, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, straight or branched C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, straight or branched C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, a straight chain C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or a straight chain C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl having an ether link or an ester link, toluenyl, COOH, nitride or halide (Br, Cl, I, F),

with the proviso that if either R or R<sub>1</sub> is CH<sub>3</sub>, the other is not H; and

with the further proviso that if either of R or R<sub>1</sub> is 2-methyl, the other is not 4-alkoxycarbonyl.